SERIAL NO.: 09/457,771 FILED: DECEMBER 9, 1999

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION IN RCE

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## In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Thrice Amended) A composition for treating an animal comprising, one or more genes, oligonucleotides, triplex DNA compounds, or ribozymes admixed with a nonionic block copolymer, wherein the block copolymer has the following formula:

$$HO(C_2H_4O)_b(C_3H_6O)_a(C_2H_4O)_H$$

wherein the molecular weight represented by the polyoxypropylene portion of the copolymer is between approximately 750 and 15,000 and the molecular weight represented by the polyoxyethylene portion of the copolymer is less than 50% of the total weight of the copolymer.

6. (Twice Amended) The composition of Claim 1 further comprising approximately 0.1% to approximately 5% by weight of a surfactant and approximately 0.5% to approximately 5% by volume of a low molecular weight alcohol.

9. (Thrice Amended) A method of delivering a compound for altering gene activity to an animal comprising, administering to an animal a composition comprising one or more genes, oligonucleotides, triplex DNA compounds, or ribozymes admixed with a nonionic block copolymer, wherein the block copolymer has the following formula:

wherein the molecular weight represented by the polyoxypropylene portion of the copolymer is between approximately 750 and 15,000 and the molecular weight represented by the polyoxyethylene portion of the copolymer is less than 50% of the total weight of the copolymer.

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